

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 07118 231029Z

10

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00 /026 W

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O 230935Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2698

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL JIDDA 7118

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, US, LE

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING IN BEIRUT

REF: A) STATE 251019 B) BEIRUT 13135

1. UNABLE TO MAKE IMMEDIATE CONTACT WITH A HIGHER RANKING OFFICIAL (SAUDIS HAVE RECENTLY ADOPTED FIVE DAY WEEK, THURS.-FRI. WEEKEND) WE GOT IN TOUCH WITH OFFICER IN CHARGE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS, MOHAMMED ALI SHUWEIHY. WE INFORMED HIM OF KIDNAPPING AND REQUESTED HIS ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING THE RELEASE OF THE TWO MEN. SHUWEIHY, WHO WAS FAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS OF THE CASE FROM NEWS BROADCASTS SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER AND CALL BACK. IN A FEW MINUTES HE RETURNED OUR CALL TO SAY THAT WE SHOULD GIVE HIM A NOTE ON THE SUBJECT WHICH HE WILL PUT IN A TELEGRAM AND SEND TO THE KING IN RIYADH. WE ARE DOING THIS NOW.

2. SUBSEQUENTLY, ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MAS'UD RETURNED
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OUR CALLS AND WE INFORMED HIM OF OUR REQUEST AND THE

COURSE OF ACTION WE WERE PURSUING.

3. IN MAKING OUR REQUEST OF THE SAUDIS WE EXPLICITLY REFERRED TO THEIR INFLUENCE WITH ALL THE ELEMENTS INVOLVED IN THE LEBANESE SITUATION INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS AND THE PLO. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT MADE ANY MENTION OF THE PLO OR PALESTINIANS IN OUR NOTE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

AKINS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY.

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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